CLAIMS

1.   A content delivery system comprising a server that supplies an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license, and a content processing apparatus connected to the server via a network, wherein:

the server includes a first supplying means for supplying the main license to the content processing apparatus over the network and a second supplying means for supplying the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network; and

the content processing apparatus includes a reproducing means for reproducing the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the sub license type identification information supplied from the server, applying the main license to the selected sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

2.   The system according to claim 1, wherein the license type identification information is to discriminate between a sub license for preview and a sub license for actual viewing.

3.   A content delivery method for a content delivery system comprising a server that

supplies an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license, and a content processing apparatus connected to the server via a network, the method comprising:

a first supplying step taken by a server to supply a main license to a content processing apparatus over a network;

a second supplying step taken by the server to supply the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network; and

a reproducing step taken by the content processing apparatus to reproduce the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the sub license type identification information supplied from the server, applying the main license to the selected sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

4.   A content processing apparatus for processing an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license, delivered from a server over a network, the apparatus comprising:

an acquiring means for acquiring the main license from the server over the network;

a receiving means for receiving the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing from the server over the network; and

a reproducing means for reproducing the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the sub license type identification information supplied from the server, applying the main license to the selected sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the license type identification information is to discriminate between a sub license for preview and a sub license for actual viewing.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the reproducing means reproduces the content by first selecting an encrypted sub license for preview on the basis of the sub license type identification information, applying the main license to the selected preview sub license to decrypt the main license and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption, and then reproduce the content by selecting an encrypted sub license for actual viewing, applying the main license to the selected actual-viewing sub license to decrypt the main license and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

7.   The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the reproducing means reproduces the content by first selecting the encrypted sub license for preview on the basis of the sub license type identification information, applying the main license to the selected preview sub license to decrypt the main license and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key included in the preview sub license, resulted from the main-license decryption, under use conditions included in the preview sub license, and then reproduce the content by selecting the encrypted sub license for actual viewing, applying the main license to the selected actual-viewing sub license to decrypt the main license and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key included in the actual-viewing sub license, resulted from the main-license decryption, under use conditions included in the preview sub license.

8.   The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the receiving means receives the encrypted content, encrypted preview sub license, encrypted actual-viewing sub license and a license information file including license type identification information for discriminating between the encrypted preview and actual-viewing sub licenses, as a MPGE-2 transport stream, from the server over the network.

9.   The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the license information file is ECM (Entitlement Control Message).

10.   The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the receiving means receives an MPEG-2 transport stream delivered by multicasting from the server over the network.

11.   A content processing method of processing an encrypted content, sub license

including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main

license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license, delivered from a

server over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

acquiring a main license from the server over the network;

receiving the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub

license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license

corresponding to a type of viewing from the server over the network; and

reproducing the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the

sub license type identification information, applying the main license to the selected

sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a

first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

12.   A recording medium having recorded therein a computer-readable program for

processing an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions

to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt

the encrypted sub license, delivered from a server over a network, the program

comprising the steps of:

acquiring the main license from the server over the network;

receiving the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub

license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license

corresponding to a type of viewing from the server over the network; and

reproducing the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the

sub license type identification information, applying the main license to the selected sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

13. A program intended for processing an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license, delivered from a server over a network, and which allows a computer to perform a process comprising the steps of:

acquiring the main license from the server over the network;

receiving the encrypted content and a license information file including the sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing from the server over the network; and

reproducing the content by selecting the supplied sub license on the basis of the sub license type identification information, applying the main license to the selected sub license to decrypt the main license, and decrypting the encrypted content with a first key resulted from the main-license decryption.

14. A content supplying apparatus for supplying an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license to a content processing apparatus over a network, the apparatus comprising:

a first supplying means for supplying the main license to the content processing

apparatus over a network; and

a second supplying means for supplying the encrypted content and a license information file including a sub license and license type identification information for identifying the sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the license type identification information is to discriminate between a sub license for preview and a sub license for actual viewing.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the second supplying means supplies the encrypted content, encrypted preview sub license, encrypted actual-viewing sub license and a license information file including license type identification information for discriminating between the encrypted preview and actual-viewing sub licenses, as an MPGE-2 transport stream, to the content processing apparatus over the network.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the license information file is ECM.

18. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the second supplying means supplies the MPEG-2 transport stream by multicasting to the content processing apparatus over the network.

19. A content supplying method of supplying an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main

license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license to a content processing apparatus over a network, the method comprising:

a first supplying step of supplying the main license to the content processing apparatus over the network; and

a second supplying step of supplying the encrypted content and a license information file including a sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network.

20. A recording medium having recorded therein a computer-readable program for supplying an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license to a content processing apparatus over a network, the program comprising:

a first supplying step of supplying the main license to the content processing apparatus over the network; and

a second supplying step of supplying the encrypted content and a license information file including a sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network.

21. A program intended for supplying an encrypted content, sub license including a first key and use conditions to decrypt the encrypted content and a main license

including a second key to decrypt the encrypted sub license to a content processing apparatus over a network, and which allows a computer to perform a process comprising the steps of:

a first supplying step of supplying the main license to the content processing apparatus over the network; and

a second supplying step of supplying the encrypted content and a license information file including a sub license and license type identification information for identifying a sub license corresponding to a type of viewing to the content processing apparatus over the network.